

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently amended) A method for creating a secondary market for private equity, comprising:

receiving registration information for accredited investors;

collecting investor-specific investment profile information from said accredited investors, wherein the information specifies types of securities preferences in which the said accredited investors are interested;

prescreening securities based on private equity to ensure that the securities meet at least one predetermined criteria, wherein the at least one predetermined criteria comprises that the securities are securities selected from the group consisting of venture-backed securities, private-equity-backed securities, and limited partnership interests;

registering in a computer database[.] the securities based on private equity as well as derivative structures of the securities based on private equity,~~said securities being qualified by meeting predetermined criteria;~~

~~using a computer to make~~ making a determination that at least one of (i) at least one security matching the investor-specific investment profile of at least one of the accredited investors is available for auction and (ii) at least one derivative structure matching the investor-specific investment profile of at least one of the accredited investors is available for auction;

~~providing transmitting electronically~~ notice to the at least one of the accredited investors that at least one of (i) the at least one security matching the investor-specific investment profile of the at least one of the accredited investors is being auctioned and (ii) the at least one derivative structure matching the investor-specific investment profile of the at least one of the accredited investors is being auctioned; and

auctioning ~~[[said]]~~ at least one of the at least one security and the at least one derivative structure securities to ~~[[said]]~~ the accredited investors over an electronic network.

2. (Original) The method for creating a secondary market for private equity of claim 1, wherein said auctioning is conducted over the Internet.

3. (Canceled)

4. (Currently amended) The method for creating a secondary market for private equity of claim 3, further comprising:

creating and storing audio-visual information and a business plan for said private equity;

and

allowing accredited investors access, over the Internet, to said audio-visual information and business plan for said private equity upon which said auctioned at least one of the at least one security and the at least one derivative structure securities are based.

5. (Currently amended) The method for creating a secondary market for private equity of claim 2, wherein said auctioning is initiated by a seller offering said at least one of the at least one security and the at least one derivative structure securities for sale.

6-7. (Canceled)

8. (Original) The method for creating a secondary market for private equity of claim 2, further comprising charging said seller a transaction fee.

9. (Original) The method for creating a secondary market for private equity of claim 2, further comprising charging said accredited investor a transaction fee.

10. (Currently amended) The method for creating a secondary market for private equity of claim 2, wherein the derivative structures comprise ~~further comprising creating~~ puts and calls based on said securities.

11. (Original) The method for creating a secondary market for private equity of claim 5, further comprising notifying accredited investors by e-mail of a seller offering said securities for sale.

12. (Original) The method for creating a secondary market for private equity of claim 7, further comprising notifying sellers by e-mail of an accredited investors bid for a private asset of a type that matches said security.

13-14. (Canceled)

15. (Previously presented) The method for creating a secondary market for private equity of claim 2, further comprising:

registering sellers of securities;

collecting securities-related information from said sellers; and

notifying said sellers when bids from accredited investors are received to purchase securities matching sellers' type of securities.

16. (Currently amended) A system for creating a secondary market for private equity, comprising:

a system operator server facility connected to an electronic network, said server facility comprising:

database storage means;

a server storage device having instructions, which when executed, cause the system to:

register accredited investors with a system operator;

collect investor-specific investment profile information from said accredited investors, wherein the information specifies types of securities preferences in which the said accredited investors are interested;

prescreen securities based on private equity to ensure that the securities meet at least one predetermined criteria, wherein the at least one predetermined criteria comprises that the securities are securities selected from the group consisting of venture-backed securities, private-equity-backed securities, and limited partnership interests;

register the securities based on private equity, ~~said securities being qualified by meeting predetermined criteria;~~

make a determination that at least one security matching the investor-specific investment profile of at least one of the accredited investors is being auctioned;

provide notice to the at least one of the accredited investors that a security matching the investor-specific investment profile of the at least one of the accredited investors is being auctioned;

receive communications from accredited investors and sellers; and
auction said securities to said accredited investors over said electronic
network based on said communications.

17. (Original) The system for creating a secondary market for private equity of claim 16,
wherein said electronic network is the Internet.

18. (Original) The system for creating a secondary market for private equity of claim 17,
wherein said private equity is selected from the group consisting of limited partnership interests
and private equity in individual companies.

19. (Original) The system for creating a secondary market for private equity of claim 18,
further comprising:

means for storing audio-visual information and a business plan for said private equity;
and

means for allowing accredited investors access, over the Internet, to said audio-visual
information and business plan for said private equity upon which said auctioned securities are
based.

20. (Previously presented) The system for creating a secondary market for private equity
of claim 17, wherein the instructions, which when executed, further cause the system to allow
said seller to initiate an auction, and wherein the instructions, which when executed, further cause
the system to allow said accredited investor to initiate an auction.

21. (Original) The system for creating a secondary market for private equity of claim 20, further comprising means associated with said server facility for notifying accredited investors by e-mail of a seller offering said securities for sale.

22. (Original) The system for creating a secondary market for private equity of claim 20, further comprising means associated with said server facility for notifying sellers by e-mail of an accredited investors bid for a private asset of a type that matches said security.

23-24. (Canceled)

25. (Original) The system for creating a secondary market for private equity of claim 17, further comprising:

means for registering sellers of securities with said system operator; means for collecting securities-related information from said sellers; and

means for notifying said sellers when bids from accredited investors are received to purchase securities matching sellers' securities.

26. (Currently amended) A method for creating a secondary market for restricted public securities, comprising:

receiving registration information for accredited investors;

collecting investor-specific investment profile information from said accredited investors, wherein the information specifies types of securities preferences in which the said accredited investors are interested;

prescreening restricted public securities of a company to ensure that the securities meet at least one predetermined criteria, wherein the at least one predetermined criteria comprises that the securities are securities selected from the group consisting of venture-backed securities, private-equity-backed securities, and limited partnership interests;

registering in a computer database, the restricted public securities of a company, ~~said securities being qualified by meeting predetermined criteria;~~

~~using~~ a computer ~~to make~~ making a determination that at least one security matching the investor-specific investment profile of at least one of the accredited investors is available for auction;

~~providing~~ transmitting electronically notice to the at least one of the accredited investors that a security matching the investor-specific investment profile of the at least one of the accredited investors is being auctioned; and

auctioning said securities to said accredited investors over the Internet.

27. (Original) The method for creating a secondary market for restricted public securities of claim 26, further comprising:

creating and storing audio-visual information and a business plan for said company; and
allowing accredited investors access, over the Internet, said audio-visual information and business plan for said company upon which said auctioned securities are based.

28. (Original) The method for creating a secondary market for restricted public securities of claim 26, further comprising charging a transaction fee to at least one of said company and said accredited investor.

29. (Original) The method for creating a secondary market for restricted public securities of claim 26, further comprising creating puts and calls based on said securities.

30. (Canceled)

31. (Previously presented) The method for creating a secondary market for restricted public securities of claim 26, further comprising:

providing an inventory of said securities by having a system operator take a position in certain restricted public securities.

32. (Previously presented) The method for creating a secondary market for private equity of claim 1, further comprising:

providing an inventory of said securities by having a system operator take a position in private equities.

33. (Canceled)